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Allegiances

LightClan

Sharpstar: She-cat with dark gray fur, and two sharp front fangs.

Apprentice: Falconpaw: Brown tabby tom.

Deputy: Redclaw: White tom with dark ginger paws and a dark ginger tail.

Medicine cat: Dawnfur: Golden she-cat.

Apprentice: Maplepaw: Red-brown she-cat.

Warriors

Whitestone: Solid white tom.

Darktail: White tom with a jet black tail.

Whitestripe: Pale silver, almost white tabby tom.

Cinderleaf: Pretty dark gray she-cat.

Blackpelt: Solid black tom with amber eyes.

Brightfur: Light gray she-cat with dark blue eyes.

Frostleap: Long furred pure white she-cat with dark blue eyes.

Apprentice: Leopardpaw: Oddly spotted dark brown tabby.

Sunfur: Pale orange she-cat.

Blazeheart: Ginger-brown tabby she-cat.

Tinyclaw: Tortoiseshell she-cat with one small paw.

Grayspots: White tom with dark gray spots.

Spottedfern: White she-cat with brown spots.

Oakclaw: Brown tabby tom.

Branchclaw: Brown tom.

Lionwhisker: Golden tom with a shaggy pelt.

Apprentice: Mosspaw: Light brown tabby she-cat.

Willowfrost: Pale silver, almost white, tabby she-cat.

Brownclaw: Dark brown tom.

Duskfeather: Dark tabby she-cat with white paws, a white underbelly, and a white tail-tip.

Moonfur: Light gray she-cat with black spots on her back, a black ringed tail, and a black eye spot. Dark blue eyes.

Ravenwing: Black tom with white paws and a white chest. Amber eyes.

Shadowheart: Dark gray she-cat with amber eyes.

Elders

Silvertail: Old, white she-cat with silver paws and a silver tail.

SmokeClan

Leader: Tawnystar: Black and tortoiseshell tom.

Deputy: Nightfur: Black tom with dark brown spots.

Apprentice: Brackenpaw: Golden tabby tom with amber eyes.

Medicine cat: Adderfur: Pale tabby tom with brown stripes.

Apprentice: Snowpelt: White tom with a black tail.

Warriors

Leafeye: She-cat with White fur and leafy green eyes.

Ashpaw: Dark gray tom with forest green eyes.

Blazefur: White and orange tabby tom.

Russetpaw: Russet she-cat with amber eyes.

Frostflower: White she-cat.

Flowerheart: Pretty tabby she-cat; pale ginger fur.

Honeyfoot: Pale golden she-cat.

Apprentice: Thistlepaw: Golden tom with green eyes.

Amberheart: Golden she-cat with amber eyes.

SwiftClan

Leader: Spottedstar: White She-cat with Jet black spots.

Deputy: Crowtail: Jet black tom.

Medicine cat: Tawnychest: Black she-cat with a tawny colored chest.

Apprentice: Talonclaw: Brown tom with a white chest.

Warriors

Ravenfeather: Sleek black tom.

Darkpelt: Dark brown She-cat with a jet black tail.

Goosewing: Black and white tom.

Shrededfur: Tom with brown fur, shredded with scars.

Softcloud: white she-cat.

Talldapple: Tall, golden dappled tom.

Skyeye: light gray she-cat with sky blue eyes.

Goldenfur: Golden tabby she-cat.

Halftail: Gray she-cat with a short tail.

Yellowcloud: Cream-colored she-cat with green eyes.

Goldtail: Golden tom with a dark golden tail.

Dappleflame: Dappled flame-coloured she-cat

Queens

Bluestorm: Blue-gray she-cat.

Elders

Lionpelt: Shaggy pale orange tom.

MistClan

Leader: Rainstar: White tom.

Apprentice: Cloudpaw: White she-cat.

Deputy: Dustfur: Grayish-brown tom.

Apprentice: Lionpaw: Golden tabby she-cat.

Medicine cat: Daisypetal: Tall, cream-colored she-cat.

Warriors

Thicktail: she-cat with a long thick tail.

Apprentice: Birchpaw: Black and white tom.

Leafstorm: Brown she-cat with green eyes.

Voleclaw: Dark brown tom.

Frostcloud: White she-cat with puffy, thick fur.

Queens

Stoneheart: Light gray she-cat with dark gray spots.

Tornflower: Brown tabby with a lot of scars.

Elders

Crowclaw: jet black tom.

Prologue

"It's too late!" a white she-cat exclaimed. "No cat has figured it out!"

"Calm down, Cloudfoot." a dark gray she-cat meowed. "We just need to send a clearer sign, before the forest is doomed forever."

"We already *have* sent them a clearer sign."

"There must be something we could do!" The dark gray she-cat exclaimed.

A sleek golden she-cat who sat away from the group sighed.

"What's wrong, Shinystar?" The dark gray she-cat asked.

"Nothing, Shadowpelt. I'm just worried about Sharpstar. She's a very strong leader, but she's not strong enough to defeat this danger. I need to visit her and tell her to keep her Clan away from the danger."

"That's it!" Cloudfoot exclaimed. "We need to visit them and show them the sign."

"That's an excellent idea," Shadowpelt meowed. "And I know the perfect sign."

Chapter 1

Moonfur went on a border patrol with Duskfeather.

"Duskpaw! Moonpaw!" Bluestorm exclaimed from the other side of the border.

"Duskfeather and Moonfur, now."

"You're warriors now? That's great."

"Have you found a sign or something?"

"No, but I'm expecting kits."

"Really?" Duskfeather asked.

"Congratulations."

"They're Talldapple's."

"Talldapple's?"

"Yes. We have been mates for four moons now. We haven't really told anyone."

"Wow. Will you still be able to come to meetings?"

"Of course!"

"BLUESTORM! HURRY UP AND CATCH THAT VOLE! I'M NOT GETTING ANY YOUNGER, HERE!" A voice called from behind the trees.

Bluestorm rolled her eyes and said, "OH, SHUT UP, HALFTAIL! YOU'RE ONLY SIXTEEN MOONS OLD!" She turned back to Moonpaw and Duskfeather. "Sorry, Halftail is just being an angry badger, right now. I need to go."

"See you at the next meeting, Bluestorm."

"See you then,"

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Moonfur woke up only to see a starry StarClan cat.

Duskfeather was awake too.

"Greetings. I'm Eaglefeather. I am a warrior of StarClan. I died a long time ago; before your parents were even born. But we mustn't talk here. Follow me."

They left the warriors' den, careful not to wake the other warriors.

They snuck past Lionwhisker, who was on guard that night, past Sharpstar's den, and out of the camp.

The three of them ran, with Eaglefeather in the lead.

They ran to the Fourtress, where they saw Cloudpaw, Voleclaw, Nightfur, Honeyfoot, Bluestorm, and Talldapple, along with some other StarClan warriors.

Puzzled, Moonfur dipped her head in greeting to everyone.

Four more StarClan cats were in the middle of the Fourtress.

"Shinystar!" Moonfur and Duskfeather both exclaimed.

"Greetings young warriors, and apprentice."

A dark gray tom stepped forward and said, "We are here to give you a sign."

A white she-cat meowed, "Look closely, young warriors, and apprentice."

A small gray tail was in front of her paws.

Moonfur was suddenly terrified. *A tail?* She thought.

"Wh-who's tail is that?"

"This is not real, young warrior. It's just a dream. No need to be scared." A dark gray she-cat meowed.

"A-are you Shadowpelt?"

"Yes, it is I, young warrior. Mother of your father. We are kin. We share the same blood. Now watch closely."

The tail darkened and darkness began to come out of it.

The darkness filled the air. Moonfur stepped back. The darkness began to fill her lungs and she couldn't breathe.

She could hear Shinystar yowl. "Only you eight can stop this darkness! The danger is in a Clan and it's already beginning to destroy the forest."

Moonfur was terrified. She couldn't breathe at all. And for one moment, she thought that she would soon join StarClan.

Chapter 2

Duskfeather gasped and jumped up, only to see that she was in the warriors' den.

Moonfur was up too.

"What in StarClan's name?" Spottedfern meowed.

"If you're not going to play around, go somewhere away from the sleeping warriors!" Darktail hissed.

"We're sorry, just a bad dream." Duskfeather meowed.

"*Both o*f you had a bad dream?"

"Leave them alone, Darktail." Redclaw defended. "And you two, go back to sleep."

Duskfeather curled into a ball and fell asleep.

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Duskfeather watched the apprentices train. Moonfur did the same.

They didn't do it because they wanted to know what to do when they get apprentices, they did it because they were bored.

Falconpaw suddenly rolled down the hill that held the sandy hollow.

"Ow!" He hissed once he landed in a thorn bush.

"It's okay, Falconpaw!" Moonfur mewed.

Moonfur padded to where he was. "You okay?"

"Yeah."

Duskfeather suddenly heard Frostleap yowl, "BADGER! RUN!"

A badger started to attack. It clawed Duskfeather's flank, but she was able to escape.

"Everyone find the nearest tree and climb it!" Sharpstar ordered.

Duskfeather ran as fast as she could, despite the pain the badger had caused. She ran up the tree and watched as everyone else ran up.

The badger clawed the tree, waiting for the cats to come down.

"Badgers!" Lionwhisker hissed. "That stupid badger clawed my neck!"

"You need to see Dawnfur," Duskfeather meowed. "That looks serious."

Sharpstar got to her paws. "You know what? No one hurts my Clan! No *one*!" She jumped off the lowest tree branch and attacked the badger with the element of surprise.

"Be careful, Sharpstar!" Frostleap yowled.

Sharpstar attacked the badger until it was dead and muttered, "I'm not scared of badgers anymore."

Sharpstar? Scared of something? Duskfeather thought.

She jumped off the tree, only to notice gray fur on the badger.

The danger is as fierce as a badger. Maybe even stronger than one.

Chapter 3

Bluestorm shivered as she walked through the territory.

She hasn't told anyone she was expecting kits yet, other than Talldapple, Moonfur, Duskfeather, and Halftail.

It hasn't snowed at all this Leaf-bare. Spottedstar even said that it was the warmest Leaf-bare she's ever experienced.

Bluestorm saw Cloudpaw and Voleclaw by the border.

"Hey!" She greeted.

"Oh, hey Bluestorm!" Voleclaw meowed.

Cloudpaw smiled. "Guess my warrior name!"

"Warrior name? Congratulations! What is it?"

"Cloudwing."

"Cloudwing, nice!"

"Bluestorm, I was looking for you. You wouldn't believe what I found."

"What did you fi-"

Bluestorm was interrupted by a yowl, followed by another one.

"Dear StarClan! What's going on?"

"I think we should find out what that was."

Bluestorm ran, careful not to hurt her unborn kits.

She saw blood flowing down the hill. Then, she noticed two dead bodies.

"Dear StarClan!" Cloudwing exclaimed.

"Crowtail! Ravenfeather!"

"How did this happen?" Voleclaw asked, scared.

"I don't know!"

Yellowcloud and Goldtail, the newly made warriors, appeared.

"What's going on here?" Yellowcloud asked. "Oh my," she gasped once she saw the bodies.

"They're dead!" Goldtail exclaimed.

"Why are there MistClan cats on our territory?" Halftail hissed as she emerged from the hill.

"Halftail, Ravenfeather and Crowtail are dead!"

"They are? Who do we have to blame?" she said, twitching her ears towards Cloudwing and Voleclaw.

"Are you accusing us of murder, Halftail?" Voleclaw hissed as he unsheathed his claws.

"Well it's kinda obviously since you're in *our* territory."

"Halftail! They would never do such a thing."

"And now *you're* defending them? Maybe you did it!"

"Maybe you're mousebrained!" Cloudwing flung herself at Halftail.

Halftail swiped her claws across Cloudwing's face and flung her away. Cloudwing crashed into a tree.

"Cloudwing! Are you okay!" Voleclaw exclaimed.

Blood was dripping down Cloudwing's white fur.

"I'm fine," she murmured. "Let's go, Voleclaw."

Voleclaw shot a dirty look at Halftail and helped Cloudwing walk as they went back to MistClan.

"Can you believe them, Bluest-"

"I'm not talking to you." Bluestorm hissed.

"Fine, see if I care." Halftail growled.

Yellowcloud and Goldtail carried the bodies back to camp, while Bluestorm and Halftail followed, not saying one word to each other.

Chapter 4

Talldapple watched Spottedstar adress the Clan. Crowtail and Ravenfeather died mysteriously. Everyone wondered why.

"Crowtail has served as our deputy for many moons, and I expected him to lead this Clan after me. Since he's dead, I shall pick the new deputy. I speak these words before Crowtail. The new deputy is Halftail. She's worked hard and she deserves it, despite her being young."

"Thank you, Spottedstar." Halftail dipped her head. "I will serve this Clan well. I will not fail you. I promise."

"Good."

"Halftail! Halftail! Halftail!"

Talldapple noticed the only one that didn't cheer- Bluestorm.

When the meeting was over, he went to meet her.

"Hey, you okay?"

"Not really."

"What's wrong?"

"Nothing."

Talldapple sat down next to her. "You can tell me." he meowed.

"Let's go outside then."

After the left camp, Talldapple and Bluestorm sat down.

"What is upsetting you?"

"Halftail. She accused Cloudwing and Voleclaw of murder, then she

accused me."

"You're not a murder."

"I know. That's not what's making me mad. What's making me mad is the fact that I try to be so nice to her, and she doesn't show the least bit of respect."

"It's okay," Talldapple nuzzled her and whispered in her ear, " I love you."

"I love you too."

Chapter 5

Cloudwing sat in Daisypetal's den.

"That piece of foxdung!" Voleclaw hissed.

"I know. Who does she think she is?"

Daisypetal entered her den. "Cloudwing, did you fall off a tree again? You know you can't climb trees."

"You can't climb trees?" Voleclaw asked, surprised.

"You weren't supposed to speak of that." Cloudwing snapped.

Daisypetal rolled her eyes. "So, what happened? Why are you in my den."

"I was-"

"She fell," Voleclaw answered for her."off that small cliff."

"Thank you, *Cloudwing*!" She hissed.

"You're welcome." Voleclaw meowed as he licked a paw and swiped it over his ear.

"If you 'fell', then why do you have claw marks and fur missing on your shoulder?"

"Um. . ." Said Voleclaw.

"You know what? I'm not going to even question what you two were doing. Just tell me if you've been attacked by a badger or a fox, or whatever."

"Nothing like that. Just a border patrol incident. . . *Before* I fell." Cloudwing finally answered.

Daisypetal just stared at her. "What am I going to do with you?"

"I don't know, kill me?"

"Let me just heal you so you can get out of my den."

Daisypetal treated Cloudwing's wounds.

"Alright, be careful with that cobweb. Keep it on all night, okay?"

"Okay."

Voleclaw left the den.

When Cloudwing was halfway out, she turned around and said, "Daisypetal, can you teach me how to climb a tree?"

"Get out."

"Fine."

Chapter 6

"Are you sure you're going to be okay not going to the gathering tonight?" Voleclaw asked.

"Yeah. I'll just hang out with my brother." said Cloudwing.

"Er. . . He's going too."

"Oh. I'll just go to sleep then."

"Are you sure you don't want me to stay here with you."

"Go. My injuries shouldn't keep you from going to the gathering."

"Fine. Have fun."

Cloudwing let out a playful growl.

"Sorry."

Voleclaw left the warriors' den.

At the gathering, he noticed Duskfeather.

"Hey Duskfeather."

"Hey."

"You wouldn't believe what happened yesterday."

"I heard. Bluestorm told Moonfur and Moonfur told me. Is Cloudwing alright?"

"She's fine. She just can't come to this gathering."

"Poor Cloudwing. Tell her that I said 'hi'."

"I will."

When the gathering started, Spottedstar spoke first.

"Greetings cats of all Clans. Yesterday, we had to say goodbye to our honored senior warrior, Ravenfeather, and our loyal deputy, Crowtail. SwiftClan will be fine, knowing that we have a strong new deputy."

"Don't say it." Voleclaw said under his breath. Then, Spottedstar said the words he didn't want to hear, "The new deputy is Halftail."

Voleclaw saw the darkness take over the night sky. "Do you see that, Duskfeather?"

"Yeah. I wonder if this is a sign."

Then Voleclaw realized that the darkness was coming from something.

"What's going on?" Duskfeather asked.

"Uh, Duskfeather? We have to get out of here!" Voleclaw exclaimed.

"Fire!" Tawnystar yowled.

Cats from all Clans scattered everywhere.

There was so much smoke, Voleclaw couldn't even see where he was going.

"Voleclaw! Watch out!"

Voleclaw tried to slow down but the ground disappeared underneath him and everything was suddenly dark.

Chapter 7

Nightfur dragged Voleclaw out of the ditch. The fire was dying out thanks to rain.

Thank StarClan for stopping this fire!

Nightfur dragged Voleclaw near the creek where some cats were taking refuge.

"Voleclaw! No!" Cloudwing exclaimed.

"Let me take a look at him." meowed Daisypetal.

Nightfur remembered the fire that occurred in SmokeClan when he was a kit. He flattened his ears, remembering Darkwing, who died trying to save him and an elder with the help of Shadowpelt, who survived that fire.

If it's still there, he thought, *I will go to the burial place and pay my respects for Darkwing and Shadowpelt.*

"Smoke inhalation. Minor, though. He'll live." Daisypetal meowed. "As long as he drinks a lot of water, he'll be okay. However, his back leg is severely injured and dislocated."

Voleclaw let out a small moan.

"Voleclaw! Thank StarClan you're alive! Are you okay?" Cloudwing cried.

"My leg." he responded.

"It's dislocated." Daisypetal told him.

"Fox-dung."

"Nightfur, I need you to hold him down."

Nightfur gently pinned him down.

"Close your eyes, Voleclaw. Don't look."

Voleclaw shut his eyes and Daisypetal pushed the leg back in place. Voleclaw screamed so loud, Nightfur's ears ached.

"I must go find my Clan now. Goodbye."

"Thank you, Nightfur."

"No problem."

Chapter 8

Honeyfoot woke up on the cold hard ground. The dens were burned badly.

"Honeyfoot. Can you come with me to go gather brambles and thorns for the den?"

"Why do you want me to come with you? You scared that a little mouse will attack you?"

"No. I just need to talk to you."

"Fine."

"Did you hear about that one elder in LightClan that died?" Nightfur asked as they left camp.

"Silvertail? She's dead? She was the oldest cat among the Clans."

"But when you have a hundred-and-something moon old lungs, a fire isn't the right situation to be in."

"True."

"So, I wanted to talk to you about that fire last night."

"Strange that it happened on at a Gathering, huh?"

"Yeah."

"I feel like it's a sign."

"You don't think that. . ."

"No. She can't be evil. She's just strong and very loyal."

"Yeah. I guess."

A/n: Sorry for the short chapter. You've probably noticed that I don't

update daily anymore. It's school. During the breaks and stuff, I'll try to update a lot. Anyways, let's try to get more reads and votes on these books! First book has 1.02k reads! So let's make a deal. If I get 2K reads on my stories, I'll write more super editions like "Shadowpelt's Sorrow" and maybe write a series of stories from the past if I get more votes. So tell your friends and tell them to tell their friends. Also, I'm starting a new book called "The Clan Cats as HUMANS???" and I might post the first chapter today so be prepared.

Chapter 9

Moonfur sat outside and watched the sun rise.

It has been moons since the fire. It was the beginning New-leaf and the flowers began to bloom.

Bluestorm would be having her kits any day.

I should go back to the camp and eat.

But then, Moonfur head a yowl. She ran to where it was coming from. She hid in a bush and saw something terrifying.

Somebody was killing another cat. Moonfur took a closer look and saw that it was Halftail. And then she realized the cat she was killing was Spottedstar!

Moonfur was paralyzed with fear.

"HALFTAIL HOW COULD YOU DO THIS? I TRUSTED YOU!" Spottedstar hissed.

Moonfur never saw Spottedstar yell. She was the nicest leader but she would be fierce if she had to.

"You fool! Trusting me was basically commiting suicide! Now I can rule SwiftClan. I'll be a fierce and strict leader, unlike a nice foolish leader who let's her Clan do what ever they want."

"You traitor!"

"Die!" Halftail slashed her claws on Spottedstar's neck and Spottedstar let out a loud yowl. Moonfur knew that she was dead.

Then, Halftail dragged Spottedstar's body over the border.

Moonfur ran without being noticed.

"Shadowheart! Shadowheart!"

Shadowheart was sharing a rabbit with Ravenwing.

"Moonfur! What's wrong? Why are you coming in the camp with such noise?" Sharpstar questioned.

"Spottedstar. . . Is . . . dead."

"What happened?"

"I. . . saw-"

"Sharpstar!" Halftail hissed. "I found Spottedstar's body on your territory!"

Moonfur noticed that she washed off all the blood.

"What?"

"You heard me! One of your pity little warriors did it!"

"That's ridiculous! A cat from *m*y Clan killing another leader? That has got to be the most preposterous thing I ever heard!"

"I'm absolutely sure that someone from your Clan did it."

"What evidence do you have against that?"

"Spottedstar's body was found in YOUR territory! Isn't that enough evidence?"

"No. Any idiot could have dragged the body over the border."

"Whatever." Halftail was halfway out the camp before she said, "Expect a battle."

Chapter 10

Duskfeather woke up to someone's paw on her face.

"What does it take to wake you up?"

Duskfeather realized that it was Moonfur. She looked through the den and saw the dark sky.

"It's midnight! What do you want?" Duskfeather whispered loudly.

"I want to talk to you."

"Fine!"

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"Why in StarClan's name did you bring me to the SwiftClan border?"

"Shh! Duskfeather, I saw. . ."

"You saw what? Make it quick, I want to go to sleep."

"Halftail. . ."

"Okay?"

"She murdered Spottedstar."

"She did?"

"Yes!"

"So why did you take me here?"

"Because. I wanted to show you the evidence. Halftail wasn't smart enough to clean up the trail of blood leading from where she killed her, to here. She tried to frame us!"

"I knew something was up! So what are we going to do about-"

"Shh I can hear someone!"

"So here's the deal. I'll give you anything you want. Extra prey, any apprentice you desire, I'll even make you the deputy-"

"But I never mentored an apprentice!"

"You don't have to. All you need to do is support me and be evil. What do you say, Goldtail?"

Everything was quiet until Goldtail replied, "Anything?"

"Anything you desire."

"Okay. I'll do it."

"Good. If you tell anyone about this, consider yourself dead."

Chapter 11

Bluestorm looked at the lifeless body of her deceased leader. It wasn't fair! Spottedstar was a very nice leader. She deserved to die in peace.

"Bluestorm, It's time to bury her. I think you should stay. Your kits-"

"I'm not feeling well."

"You're bleeding!"

"What does that mean? Is there something wrong?"

"Of course! Your kits are coming! And you're bleeding a lot!"

Bluestorm started feeling dizzy. "I need. . . Talldapple . . . Here."

Tawnychest called Talldapple and Talldapple was in the nursery.

"Bluestorm! Are you okay?"

"So. . . Dizzy." Bluestorm suddenly passed out.

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Bluestorm woke up in a familiar place.

"Bluestorm? Are you awake?"

"Where am I?"

"Medicine den. It's me, Tawnychest. You're going to have to stay here for the next few days. You need to recover and drink plenty of water."

"What happened?"

"You had your kits. A tom and a she-cat."

"Where are they?"

"With your Goldenfur."

"Where's Talldapple?"

"Sleeping in the Warriors den. He'll be so happy to see you awake. He kept talking about how much he missed your sweet voice for the pass few days."

"Few days?"

"You were out for two days. You lost a lot of blood."

The meeting! Bluestorm thought. She had missed the meeting with the other cats. She knew she was going to be missing a lot more now that she had her kits.

"Now eat this mouse and get some rest."

"I need to talk to Talldapple first."

"No just eat the mouse and go ba-"

"I need to see him, *now*." Bluestorm snapped. She got on her paws and walked out.

"Bluestorm no! You can't be standing right now!"

"Leave me alone. Just for a few moments and I'll be back to sit on that stupid little patch to keep you happy. Okay?"

Tawnychest frowned. "Okay."
Bluestorm crept to the warriors den but stopped after hearing a familiar voice.

"Where are you going this time of night."

"Talldapple!" Bluestorm nuzzled her mate and sat next to him.

"So happy to see you. Our kits are beautiful. Just like you."

"I can't wait to see them."

"Come with me. I need to tell you something."

Bluestorm followed Talldapple to the clearing.

"You missed a lot during the meeting."

"What happened?"

"Well about Spottedstar. Halftail killed her."

"*What*?"

"Moonfur witnessed the whole thing. She tried to frame LightClan and now we have to fight them."

"Great StarClan!"

"So we figured that Halftail is the danger. Gray fur, only half of a tail. Just like the dream."

"Of course! Why didn't we think of this sooner. And to think Halftail was my friend! I'd like to show her a peice of my mind!"

"Keep it down. She could be back from the Moonstream anytime now."

"I guess we have to start calling her Halfstar now."

"I don't want to." Talldapple sighed.

"Well I'm not going to. I don't see her as a leader. I'll continue to call her Halftail."

"Good luck."

"So about the battle. What are we going to do?"

"We decided to try to slip away during the battle."

"And go where?"

"To the hideout. The only safe place. But you would probably be staying here in camp."

"I wanna help."

"We'll find something for you to do. Promise. Now, let's go back to camp."

Chapter 12

Talldapple played with his kits who were now three moons old.

"Hmm. I wonder where Puddlekit is."

"I'm right here daddy! Can't you see me!" squealed the dappled blue tom.

"Hahah, there you are!"

"Talldapple it's time."

"Mommy, daddy, where are you going?" Sunkit asked.

"Don't worry about it kids. Mommy and daddy will be back shortly to play with you." Bluestorm meowed.

"But you always leave us to go somewhere."

"We're just going hunting. Now be good to Yellowcloud."

"We will!" the kits said in unison.

The two started for the exit when they were suddenly blocked by a massive gray cat.

"Just where do you two think you're going?"

"Long live Halfstar." Bluestorm and Talldapple said at the same time while dipping their heads. They were obligated to do that.

"We were just going hunting." Talldapple replied.

"Who ordered you?"

"Nobody, Great Halfstar."

"You do not order yourself around in this Clan! Only Goldtail and I can! Do you understand?"

"Yes, Great Halfstar."

"And you," she looked at Bluestorm. "you have kits! Take care of them instead of doing a warriors' job!"

"Yes, Great Halfstar."

"Now you, Talldapple. Go get ready for battle. It's time we got revenge on LightClan." Halfstar walked away.

"Long live Halfstar."

"I don't want to fight LightClan. They didn't kill Spottedstar."

"Exactly, but Halfstar us getting everyone to believe that she's innocent. Little does she know that some of us know!"

Halfstar yelled from the rock.

"Bye. See you later." Talldapple nuzzled Bluestorm and walked to the center where Halfstar was adressing the Clan.

"Alright I want everyone to line up! Senior warriors in the front and everyone else in the back. Apprentices, stand to the left of your mentors. Goldtail, take up the rear and make sure everyone is in good shape!"

"Yes, Great Halfstar!"

"Let's go!"

SwiftClan walked to the LightClan territory.

Talldapple wanted to slip away but with Goldtail on watch, it wasn't possible.

When they reached the LightClan camp Halfstar charged. Some warriors stayed behind and stood but Goldtail was slamming into cats urging them to fight with the Clan.

Talldapple saw Halfstar attacking an apprentice, then a kit.

"STOP!" a queen yowled. "YOU LEAVE MY KIT ALONE!"

Halfstar flung the kit, charging for the queen. This was wrong. LightClan has done nothing wrong.

"You!" Goldtail snapped. "Fight along with your Clan! What, do you have a mate in LightClan?"

"Sorry, Goldtail." Talldapple spotted Moonfur attacking Yellowcloud and leaped, slamming into Moonfur.

"TALLDAPPLE WHAT THE FOXDUNG? ARE YOU MAD???"

"Hurt me!"

"What?"

Talldapple contined to fight her.

"Make this look real. I need you to hurt me so I can retreat. I don't want to fight your Clan. Hurry she's watching me." Talldapple looked over his shoulder to see Halfstar glaring at him.

Moonfur bit Talldapple's shoulder and pushed him off.

Talldapple lied on the warm floor and noticed Halfstar standing above him with her paw on his chest. "Weak." she said before she pushed him and started fighting again.

Talldapple looked at the kit. It's mother and the medicine cat were huddled over it.

"There's nothing much I can do. It's better to end it's misery."

"No, I can't do that to my own kit!"

"Would you rather have him suffer until it happens?"

The queen had nothing but sorrow in her eyes. She bended over and bit her son.

"I'm sorry Smallclaw. I know he was your only child."

Talldapple felt bad. What if that was his own kit? He could only imagine the pain that kit was going through. "I hope you have fun

playing in StarClan." he whispered.

Chapter 13

Cloudwing sat in the shadows of the camp watching the warriors teach the kits about how to defend themselves in case of an emergency. The whole forest knew about the kit that Halfstar murdered and only one question is heard among the Clans. ***Why?*** Everybody is scared of Halfstar now, always on alert.
"You know, it kills me to see you so depressed. You need to smile."

"Why smile when kits are being taught how to tackle other cats?"

"I know how you feel."

"We need to do something about this. This is not okay."

"It's not. Now let's go to the Gathering."

MistClan left for the Gathering and arrived a bit early. They were the only Clan there until SwiftClan showed up.
Everyone looked at Halfstar.

"What are you all looking at?" She snapped. Everyone looked away and went on about their business.

Talldapple met Cloudwing and Voleclaw.

"Have you heard the news."

"Obviosly. Everyone has." Voleclaw told him.

"Can we not talk about this?" Cloudwing meowed. She was starting to get tense.

When LightClan and SwiftClan arrived, their friends sat next to each other and the Gathering begun.

"Greetings." said Tawnystar. "All is-"

"I want to speak first!" said Halfstar.

"But-" Halfstar moved up and Tawnystar had to take a step back.

"I know you all know about the kit."
Cloudwing began to smell fear.
"That's what LightClan gets for killing our leader."

"Halfstar, now's not the time for that. . ." meowed Rainstar.

"Now's a perfect time! It's a perfect time to tell you all that LightClan is full of hypocrites. They killed our leader, and I killed a member of their Clan for the pride of SwiftClan."

"MY SON DID NOTHING TO DESERVE THIS!" Smallclaw yelled from the crowd.

"HE WAS OUR ONLY KIT!" yelled Grayspots.

"You're right, tortoiseshell with the deformed paw. But Spottedstar did nothing to deserve her death. She was sweet and caring. Our only leader, the only cat to have a heart on heart conversation with. May I say my only friend? Spottedstar was many things and I know she would be looking down on me smiling."

"Spottedstar wouldn't want this." Talldapple called out. "Not now, not ever. She was a leader who never jumped to conclusions. Who searched for evidence before punishing someone. She helped kits instead of hurting them. I'm pretty sure that's why Darkstar made her the deputy many moons ago. Right, Lionpelt?" he asked an elder.

"Right."

"Let me tell you something, Talldapple. You think you know everything but I know more. I know about your little squad right there. Yeah. The cats your sitting with right now. Stop trying to act like you're loyal because you're not. See me in my den when we get back."

"Um Halfstar, I think I should speak now." said Tawnystar.

"Go ahead."

"Um. So. S-SmokeClan is great. Amberheart is expecting kits."

"Congratulations." meowed Sharpstar

"Thank you. We have a new warrior. Russetwing and that's it. Sharpstar?"

"LightClan is devastated by the loss of a young kit but that doesn't mean we're weak. Halfstar, we've decided to let it go for now but we're keeping our distance from your Clan."

"Why? Scared of us?"

"No. Because I care about my Clan. I wouldn't make them battle for revenge unless it's needed. Rainstar?"

"The creek is drying up but we've been catching a lot of prey. That's it."

"I guess this gathering has come to an end."